VZCZCXYZ0023 PP RUEHWER

DE RUEHNM #0118 0631320 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 041320Z MAR 09 FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4889 INFO RHMFISS/HO USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE PRIORITY RHMFISS/CDR USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE PRIORITY RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0785 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS NIAMEY 000118

DEPT FOR AF/W AND AF/RSA PARIS FOR AFRICA WATCHER

STPDTS SENSITIVE/NOFORN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR MASS PREL MCAP PGOV US NG
SUBJECT: NIGER DECLINES INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN DMI CONFERENCE

Ref: Niamey 00079

11. (SBU) On February 26, Embassy Niamey received Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation diplomatic note number 1322, dated February 25, from its Division of Military Cooperation:

(Begin text)

(complimentary opening)

...and, in reference to the Embassy Diplomatic Note No. 015 dated February 02, 2009, has the honor to request the Embassy to inform the concerned authorities of its country that Niger will not be able attend the conference organized by the United States Africa Command (US AFRICOM).

(complimentary closure)

(End text)

12. (SBU/NF) Comment: This decision, to decline AFRICOM's invitation to participate in a Directors of Military Intelligence conference to be held March 23 - 27 in Garmisch, Germany, falls along the lines of the GON decision to limit selectively GON military-to-military cooperation (reftel). This is significant, given Niger's participation in the same event in 2008. This message, voiced through civilian channels, tracks with reftel's communication from the Ministry of National Defense. ALLEN